



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service Office
2525 14th Avenue SE
Ruskin, FL 33570-5468

January 27, 2009

Weather Radio Test Next Wednesday with a Live Tornado Warning

The Emergency Alert System (EAS) will be activated next Wednesday, February 4, at 10:10 AM EST. In the advent of adverse weather, the drill will be postponed until Friday, February 6, at 10:10 AM EST.

The EAS system will be activated as National Weather Service offices throughout Florida issue a test tornado warning as part of Hazardous Weather Awareness Week. We are using an actual EAS Tornado event code this year instead of a Required Weekly Test event code that we have used in years past.

What does this mean to you?

1. Weather Radio radios will be alerted. Some will scroll "tornado warning".
2. Some Broadcasters and Cable companies may choose to interrupt programming to broadcast the test tornado warning. Some automated systems may produce a scroll on the television that does not include the word "test".
3. Some weather radios will receive multiple tornado warnings because the weather radio transmitter sends warnings from more than one National Weather Service office (e.g. the Sumterville transmitter covers 3 NWS offices and will transmit tornado warnings for from NWS Ruskin, NWS Melbourne, and NWS Jacksonville).

